

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 18 - 37 are pending in the application. Currently, all claims stand rejected.

By the present amendment, claim 18 has been amended and claim 26 has been cancelled without prejudice.

In the office action mailed December 27, 2007, claims 18 - 23, 26 - 31, 33, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,850,752 to Lax; claims 24, 25, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lax in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,926,164 to Broadhead et al.; claims 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lax in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,954,114 to Weisburn et al.; and claim 36 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lax in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,113,720 to Fresnel.

The foregoing rejections are traversed by the instant response.

Independent claim 18 as amended is directed to an anti-theft device for articles, comprising a rigid parallelepipedal case with two large faces and four sides, a first one of the large faces forming an opening for insertion of an article with dimensions that are essentially the same as those of the case, said first one face comprising a first raised edge that is an extension of one of the sides, wherein said device comprises a trigger member that can occupy a locked position, which is mobile in translation around an axis of a plane of the first face, said trigger member comprising at least one additional

raised edge which cooperates with the first raised edge to prevent the removal of the article contained inside the case, said trigger member being mobile in translation along an axis parallel to a pair of side faces, said trigger member comprising two lateral wings, said case comprising two lateral housings, at least one part of the lateral wings being housed in the housing defining a translation movement of the trigger so that the trigger remains perpendicular to the side faces during the movement of the trigger, and a locking pull rod that is mobile around an axis that is transverse to movement of the trigger member and which can lock the trigger member in said locked position.

According to the present invention, the trigger member is mobile in translation and is guided in translation by the lateral housing. Thus, placing and removing the trigger member is compatible with quick handling.

A review of Lax shows that it lacks a trigger member which is mobile in translation along an axis parallel to a pair of side faces, a trigger member comprising two lateral wings, a case comprising two lateral housings and at least one part of the lateral wings being housed in the housing defining a translation movement of the trigger so that the trigger remains perpendicular to the side faces during the movement of the trigger.

For these reasons, Lax does not anticipate the subject matter of amended claim 18.

The secondary references to Broadhead et al., Weisburn et al. and Fresnel do not cure the aforementioned deficiencies of Lax.

Claims 19 - 25 and 27 - 37 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 18 as well as on their own accord.

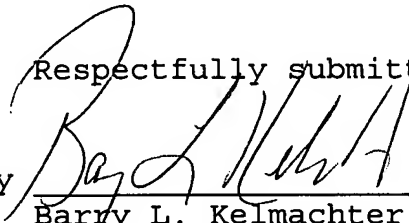
For the foregoing reasons, the instant application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

A request for a one-month extension of time and a check in the amount of \$120.00 are enclosed herewith. Should the Director determine that an additional fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

By


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Date: April 1, 2008

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on April 1, 2008.


Lori J. Larson